



NEWS RELEASE

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MEXICAN NATIONAL SENTENCED FOR CASH SMUGGLING

(Texarkana, TX) United States Attorney Matthew D. Orwig announced today that a 30 year-old Mexican national has been sentenced to 24 months in federal prison for smuggling bulk cash in the Eastern District of Texas. **DAVID SANCHEZ** was sentenced today by United States District Judge David Folsom.

U.S. Attorney Orwig was pleased with the sentence, "It is imperative that everyone pay their fair share of taxes. This is a serious crime with a just sentence."

According to court documents, on December 6, 2005, Sanchez was stopped in Titus County for a traffic violation. During the stop, Texas Department of Public Safety troopers asked for consent to search the vehicle Sanchez was driving. A search of the vehicle revealed \$223,890.00 in U.S. currency hidden in the vehicle. Sanchez admitted to attempting to smuggle the money to Mexico and that the money was the proceeds of narcotics trafficking. Sanchez pleaded guilty on April 4, 2006 and the money was seized as proceeds of unlawful drug trafficking.

Sanchez will face deportation upon the completion of his federal prison sentence.

This case was investigated by the Texas Department of Public Safety, Narcotics Service and the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Barry Bryant.

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